

Amendments to the Specification:

Beginning at page 1, line 2, please insert the following paragraph:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

2.8.
12-10-04
This application is a continuation (and claims the benefit of priority under 35 USC 120) of U.S. Application Serial No. 10/353,164, filed January 27, 2003 (now ^{patent 6,710,410} ~~allowed~~), which is a continuation of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/916,916, filed July 26, 2001 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,515,334), which is a continuation of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/008,098, filed January 16, 1998 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,331,722), which claims the benefit from foreign priority applications filed in Japan on January 18, 1997, as Serial No. 09-019802 and on January 20, 1997 as Serial No. 09-022078. This application claims priority to each of these prior applications, and the disclosures of the prior applications are considered part of (and are incorporated by reference in) the disclosure of this application.